Rt. 8, Frederick, Md. 21701

4/25/69

Dear both Lederers,

It took a libellous article, hun?

Recall your visit very well.

Goose book a good idea. I have one with the same or similar purposes I had to lay aside three years ago, but that one is not about the Chines. Itt about the Canades. I call it "Father Goose" before the movie.

We have more than one publication about the assassination. I've done most of the (bankrupting) work in the field

To answer your questions in haste:

Geese have remarkably acute hearing- better than that of the best watchdogs. They make excellent guards if they are not too tame.

I do not know how good their vision is. I suspect it is quite good, but that could be the hearing that causes a reaction I have taken as from very good sight.

They eat many but not all weeds. I do not believe they eat worms or insects. I have never seen them do it. But they prefer some young weeds to grass. I've seen them give the bark of trees a rought time.

In the sense of limited flight, for a few feet or, from a high, running start, a few hundred under the best (lean and hungry) conditions, Chines can fly. But they are very limited. Mostly they do not try. They used to half-run, half-fly when I called them to feed.

Honk is probably the best description of their normal voice, although when together in intimacy, with the gander making a big romantic fuss, with ardent declarations of undying, etc., it gets pretty high pitched and when they are walking along just talking to themselves it is a sort of muttered gobbling, but not at all like that of the turkey. When they are eating, just contented, not jealous or excitied, their low chatter is, I guess, best called gabbling. Sometimes they eat in silence except when they are arroused. Depending on what they are eating, they can make other noises, like when they crack something with their powerful, serrated mandibles.

I have no knowledge of their sense of smell, have never seen any demonstration of it that I recognized as such.

I believe they do remember, and rather well. People, incidents, animals, paths. It might be difficult to distinguish between remembering and instinct and habit. I consider them very intelligent for fowl. Wish I had time for more. I've stopped other things not to forget to answer.

Regards,